

REMARKS  
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The Office Action mailed March 7, 2006 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-59 are in the case. Claims 38-41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1-37 and 42-59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Vanstone (Vanstone et al., US Patent 6,141,420) in view of Koyama (Koyama et al., Elliptic Curve Cryptosystems and Their Applications, reference U).

By this paper, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 26, and 29 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the novel and nonobvious subject matter of the invention. Claim 18 has been amended to correct a typographical error. As suggested by the Examiner, Claim 38 has been amended by rewriting it in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base Claim 1, as Claim 1 stood prior to this amendment D. (Claim 38 was based directly on Claim 1; there are no intervening claims). Claims 39-41 depend on Claim 38.

For the reasons set forth below, Claims 1-59 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks, is therefore respectfully requested.